



Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities Monthly Report to the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) December 2023



External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV, including social media, news release with 38,255 subscribers, and newspaper advertising for promotion – November 8, 2023



NSSAB Meeting held on November 8, 2023

- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Hosted interactive groundwater demonstration for school children from across Clark County during Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) STEM Saturdays event at The Atomic Museum, Las Vegas, NV – November 4, 2023
 - Hosted Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB Rep. attended) – November 7, 2023
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB leadership attended) – November 8, 2023
 - Attended and presented at 22nd Annual U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Intergovernmental Meeting on Nuclear Weapons Waste Cleanup (for state, local, tribal, and federal officials to discuss priorities and strategies for managing and storing defense nuclear waste and for remediation of production sites) held in Minneapolis, MN – November 14-16, 2023
EM Update article, *Listening is Key to Progress at DOE's Intergovernmental Meeting*, published on November 21, 2023 can be accessed [here](#).
- Publications:
 - The current *EM Strategic Vision: 2023-2033* can be accessed [here](#). NNSS is featured on pages 32-33. [standing item]

- Planned activities for December 2023:
 - Conduct Pahute Mesa Well Installation Presentation #3 to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) – December 6, 2023 (NOTE: NSSAB Work Plan Item #7 addressed during November 8, 2023, NSSAB Meeting)

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- Update from previous reports – Portsmouth, OH generator: In July 2023, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducted an onsite facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In October 2023, RWAP approved the generator’s corrective action plan (CAP). In November 2023, RWAP is evaluating the generator’s objective evidence. (please see August - October 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In August 2023, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In October 2023, RWAP approved the generator’s CAP and is awaiting the generator’s objective evidence expected in December 2023. (please see September - October 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- In the month of November 2023, RWAP conducted one facility evaluation:
 - Portsmouth, OH generator: A facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. The generator will have 30 days after receiving RWAP’s report to respond to the Finding.
- In the month of December 2023, RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In the month of December 2023, approximately 54,837 cubic feet of low-level waste (LLW), mixed (MLLW), and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) - Groundwater

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 101/102, Pahute Mesa

In November 2023, NDEP review of the Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan for the Pahute Mesa CAUs continued. Collection of groundwater samples from Pahute Mesa wells continued.

Industrial Sites

CAU 114, Area 25 Engine Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly (EMAD) Facility

CAU 114 comprises three Corrective Action Sites (CASs) in Area 25 of the NNSS. The Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan was approved by NDEP in June 2021. In November 2023, preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued and will continue in December 2023.

CAU 572, Test Cell C (TCC) Ancillary Building and Structures

CAU 572 comprises five CASs in Area 25 of the NNSS. The SAFER Plan was approved by NDEP in April 2021. Preparation of the Closure Report continued in November 2023 and will continue in December 2023. The Closure Report is due in December 2023.

CAU 578, Miscellaneous Inactive Sites

CAU 578 comprises eleven CASs on the NNSS. Preparation of the Closure Report continued in November 2023 and will continue in December 2023. The Closure Report is due in February 2024.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance were performed in accordance with closure requirements. Maintenance and repairs identified during the 2022 annual inspections will continue through calendar year 2023. The annual post-closure inspections began in July 2023 and will continue through the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include seven CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance were performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. In November 2023, required repairs and maintenance identified during the September 2023 inspections were performed. In December 2023, quarterly inspections will be conducted.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

In November 2023, finalization of the Draft Addendum to the Closure Report for CAU 98, Frenchman Flat, continued.

Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO)

The FFACO is a regulatory agreement that identifies sites of potential historic contamination on the NNSS and outlines a strategy and timeline for completing corrective actions. A collaborative effort with all signatories to modify the FFACO is underway to update the main body and appendices. One key change is the identification of the EM Nevada Program as a separate signatory (previously, the EM Nevada Program and NNSA/NFO were represented by NNSA/NFO signature). A new Appendix, VII, was also written to provide a Post-Closure Strategy for closed CAUs that includes processes for transitioning responsibility of FFACO sites to long-term stewards. This extensive revision process was last undertaken when the FFACO was modified in 2010. The proposed changes in progress further solidify the Department's commitment to long-term environmental protection and support the evolution of the EM Nevada Program mission. The NSSAB provided input on this topic as one of the Board's work plan items. (NOTE: NSSAB Work Plan Item #6 addressed during November 8, 2023, NSSAB Meeting)